



Date: May 24, 2004

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Press Release

MEDIA ADVISORY: MEDIA INVITED TO OBSERVE SEARCH AND RESCUE FORUM

ROCKLAND, Maine – The media is invited to observe the 2004 Search and Rescue Forum scheduled for June 4 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Coast Guard Station Rockland. Representatives from various agencies will be available for media interviews from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

The forum is aimed to provide training, enhance an understanding and build upon existing cooperation between coastal maritime and search and rescue agencies.

The forum, sponsored by the Coast Guard and the Maine Marine Patrol, will include classroom search and rescue training, underway search and rescue techniques, rescue and survival equipment procedures and helicopter familiarity.

More than 50 search and rescue responders representing over 20 agencies are scheduled to attend the forum.

Resources scheduled for display will be the MMP boat Guardian, a 41-foot utility boat from Station Rockland and an HH-60 Jayhawk helicopter from Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod.

This is the fourth forum of its kind held for all coastal search and rescue agencies in Maine by the Coast Guard and MMP.

The Coast Guard and MMP are committed to promoting safe and effective search and rescue procedures for all municipal, state and federal public servants.

On an average day, the Coast Guard conducts 109 search and rescue cases, assists 192 people in distress and saves 10 lives.

Station Rockland is located at 54 Tillson Avenue.

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Alternate times for media interviews may be arranged upon request prior to June 3.